

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: GUSTAV TAPPE <i>ET AL.</i>)	
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SERIAL NO. TO BE ASSIGNED)	ART UNIT: TO BE ASSIGNED
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FILED: HEREWITH)	EXAMINER: TO BE ASSIGNED
)	
FOR: A BLEACH-FIXING CONCENTRATE)	
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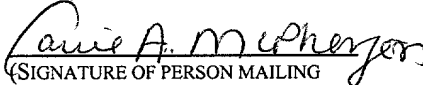
Asst. Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

"EXPRESS MAIL" No. EE617838245 DATE: MAY 25, 2001

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to fee calculation and examination please amend the above-identified application as follows.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-12.

Please add the following new claims:

- 13. A one-part photographic bleach-fixing concentrate comprising
 - a) an iron(III) complex salt,
 - b) a thiosulphate,
 - c) a sulphite, a disulphite or a sulphinic acid, and

d) at least one compound comprising a phosphate, polyphosphate, polyphosphonate, nitrate or bromide.

14. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 13, wherein said thiosulphate is present in an amount from 0.5 to 5 mol/litre, said sulphite is present in an amount from 0.2 to 4 mol/litre and said Fe(III) complex salt is present in an amount from 0.1 to 1 mol/litre.
15. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 13, wherein the concentrate has a pH from 4 to 9.
16. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 14, wherein the concentrate has a pH from 5 to 6.5.
17. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 13, wherein the concentrate has an amount of phosphate, polyphosphate, polyphosphonate, nitrate or bromide is 0.01 to 2.5 mol/litre.
18. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 14, wherein the concentrate has an amount of phosphate, polyphosphate, polyphosphonate, nitrate or bromide is 0.01 to 2.5 mol/litre.
19. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 13, which further comprise one or more complexing agents.
20. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 19, wherein said complexing agent is a polycarboxylic acid or a (poly)-hydroxy polycarboxylic acid.
21. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 19, wherein said complexing agent is citric acid.
22. A one-part photographic bleach-fixing concentrate comprising

- a) an iron(III) complex salt,
 - b) a thiosulphate,
 - c) a sulphite, a disulphite or a sulphinic acid, and
 - d) a phosphate, polyphosphate or polyphosphonate.
23. A ready-to-use bleach-fixing bath comprising
- a) an iron(III) complex salt,
 - b) a thiosulphate,
 - c) a sulphite, a disulphite or a sulphinic acid,
 - d) a phosphate and
 - e) a polycarboxylic acid or a (poly)-hydroxycarboxylic acid.
24. The ready-to-use bleach-fixing bath according to claim 23, wherein the phosphate is contained in an amount from 0.01 to 0.6 mol and the polycarboxylic acid or (poly)hydroxycarboxylic acid is contained in an amount from 0.5 to 50 mmol per litre.
25. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 14, wherein the amount of amount of phosphate, polyphosphate, polyphosphonate, nitrate or bromide is 0.05 to 1 mol/litre.
26. The one-part photographic bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 13, wherein said thiosulphate is sodium thiosulphate, potassium thiosulphate or ammonium thiosulphate.
27. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 18, wherein said one or more complexing agents is present in an amount from 1 to 200 mmol/l concentrate.
28. The one-part bleach-fixing concentrate according to claim 18, wherein the one or more complexing agents is in an amount of from 5 to 50 mmol/l concentrate. - -

REMARKS

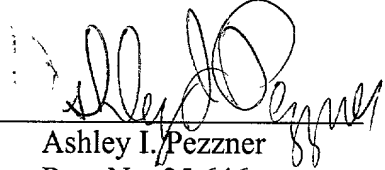
The applicants respectfully request that the preliminary amendment be entered prior to fee calculation and examination. The applicants have rewritten claims 1-12 into proper U.S. format as newly added claims 13-24. Support for newly added claims 25 and 26 can be found at page 3 of the specification, lines 19-24. Support for newly added claims 27 and 28 can be found at page 4, lines 9-10 of the specification. No additional fee is required for the claims. If there are any additional fees due in connection with the filing of this response the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 03-2775.

A prompt and favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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